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INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN HUMANITIES

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1992

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 ZHENG, Gaohua, Visiting Professor (June 1992 — December 1992), *Politics and Society in Yuan and Ming Periods*
 Michael MOREMAN, Visiting Professor (July 1992 — February 1993), Ph. D. (Yale Univ.), *Comparative Social Interaction*

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LESSONS FROM LITERATURE

(coordinated by professor ASUKAI, M., April 1989~March 1993)

The participants in this research project are mainly researchers in Japanese literature, but include also researchers in the literature of other countries ranging from Britain, America, France, Russia and Germany to Asian nations such as Burma and India.

Initially, no single theme was identified, but participants made contributions to various different problems concerning literature. However, after two years' work, such issues as "modernization in literature," "driftage and strange lands in literature" and "translation" are emerging as major themes.

In the monthly reading sessions, the subject has been Kuroda Kikuro's *Hyōkōkiji* (the earliest Japanese translation of *Robinson Crusoe*).

BASIC BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON LEADING POLITICAL FIGURES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

(coordinated by Associate Professor FUJII, J., April 1990~March 1993)

The aim of this project is to gather comprehensive information relating to the activities and whereabouts at any one time of men who performed important political roles in the first century of the early modern period in Japan. This information will then become the shared property of researchers. Research will be based on analysis of the vast and rich correspondence of the political figures extant from this period. The aim is to depict seventeenth-century history from a fresh perspective, through documenting the activities of important figures of the time.

THE STRUCTURAL INTERCONNECTIONS OF THE MODERN EAST ASIAN NATIONS

(coordinated by Professor FURUYA, T., April 1992~March 1996)

The aim of this joint research is to comprehend the interrelations of modern East Asian nations. We will also consider Japanese connections with other nations and examine each topic from various angles, taking into account economic, legal, political and literary factors.

We shall try to identify certain unifying themes in this study and also put forward some ideas about the impact, or lack thereof, of Japanese interracial efforts in East Asia before the Second World War.

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP AT A HISTORICAL TURNING-POINT

(coordinated by Professor SASAKI, S., April 1992~March 1995)

We will examine the lives of some of those who went through the period of the Meiji Restoration: nobles, vassals, voluntary warriors, bourgeois, peasants, etc., in order to analyse the history of their activities.

RESEARCH ON CHINA IN THE 1920'S

(coordinated by Professor HAZAMA, N., April 1988~March 1993)

For the past fifteen years the research group has been working on three major themes of modern Chinese history. From 1973 to 1978 we studied "The May Fourth Movement Period," from 1978 to 1983 the topic was "Culture and Society in Early Republican China," and from 1983 to 1988 the topic was "The National Revolution." During the period of the last research project, we studied problems covering the period from the May Fourth Movement to the Anti-Japanese War.

In April 1988 we started a new five year research project dealing with "China in the 1920's." On the basis of the results of the last research project we decided to take a closer look at Chinese Society in the 1920's, studying its different political, economic, and cultural aspects.

STUDY OF "LI" SYSTEM IN ANCIENT CHINA

(coordinated by Professor KOMINAMI, I., April 1989~March 1994)

The "li" system was one of the most fundamental elements in Chinese culture in the past. It emanated from the religious ideas and social customs in ancient China and came to be systematized in pre-Qin and Han dynasty periods. It had a big effect on the daily life of Chinese people from that time until the recent Chinese revolution. In our research seminar, we have been undertaking translation and

annotation of the “Zhou li” (one of the Three Canons of Li), thereby intending to clarify the characteristic feature of the “li” system in Chinese culture.

METHODS AND MATERIALS OF THE HISTORY OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE (coordinated by Associate Professor TAKATA, T., April 1990~March 1993)

This seminar is arranged in order to provide a solid basis for the future compilation of the history of the Chinese language. For this task, not only materials from various written documents which range from the most ancient times down to recent days, but also those from dialectal studies will be taken up for discussion. In addition, special attention will be paid to methodological refinements of the historical study of the Chinese language.

A STUDY ON ART OF THE SIX DYNASTIES (coordinated by Associate Professor SOFUKAWA, H., April 1990~March 1995)

The aim of our research seminar is to form a correct and up-to-date image of the Six Dynasties art from the third to the sixth century. We will analyze these arts according to three fields, 1) vast archaeological materials unearthed since the communist revolution, 2) Buddhist grotto temples such as Yungang and Longmen, 3) the aesthetic theory in painting and calligraphy.

THE LIFE OF CHINESE LITERATI (coordinated by Professor ARAI, K., April 1991~March 1993)

The object of this study is the so-called ‘*bunjin shumi*’ in China. ‘*Bunjin shumi*’ means the taste which the Chinese literati have considered the best as a private life style. Our study is not confined to a period but to the area Jiang-nan, the cultural centre in old times. The main theme of the study is *Zunsheng bajian* by Gao Lian (Ming dynasty).

SOCIETY AND CULTURE IN THE LATE MING AND THE EARLY QING PERIOD (coordinated by Professor ONO, K., April 1991~March 1995)

During the 17th century, China experienced dynamic changes in its social structure, economy, ideology and culture as the Qing Dynasty took from the Ming. Qing government restructured those changes and established the base for the new rule of the nation for the next 260 years. The purpose of our study is to capture the changing phase of the period in various aspects along with a methodological examination. The study group will meet every week for text-reading and individual research reports. The texts include biographies of representative figures of the time in different fields.

BUDDHIST CENTRAL ASIA AND INDIA BETWEEN THE FOURTH AND THE EIGHTH CENTURY (III): STUDIES ON FAXIAN ZHUAN (coordinated by Professor KUWAYAMA, Sh., April 1991~March 1996)

This project was started in April 1983 in the light of the need for scholarly communication about the interpretation of Chinese textual sources, such as accounts of travels of Indian and Chinese Buddhist monks. The first two programs between 1983 and 1991 resulted in the reading of the first five books of Xuanzang's extensive biography and the publication of an annotated translation of Huichao's *Account of Five Indic Regions*. In April 1991 the third and latest program began a discussion by a dozen specialists at the bi-weekly meeting on Monday afternoon on the problems of making a reliable Japanese version of the original Chinese text of *Faxian zhuan*.

STUDY ON THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY IN CHINA

(coordinated by Associate Professor TANAKA, T., April 1991~March 1996)

The aim of this weekly seminar is to clarify the characteristics of the several fields of traditional technology in China, in particular the fields related to everyday life and the domestic sciences. Our immediate plans are to read and give the Japanese translation of two different kinds of texts concerning agriculture and horticulture : the main text of general interest is *Neng Shu (Agricultural Treatise)* written by Wang Zhen in 1332 of Yuan Dynasty ; the subsidiary one of more specific interest is *Zhejiang Lu (Collected Biographies of Mastercraftsmen)* edited by Liang Qi-Xiong in 1933. As well as the philological works, we also plan for members to give lectures on various subjects concerning the history of technology in China.

MATERIAL CULTURE OF MEDIEVAL CHINA

(coordinated by Professor TONAMI, M., April 1991~March 1996)

This seminar covers the period from the third century B. C. to the tenth century A. D., and we plan to conduct it over five years. We will examine both transmitted and newly excavated materials, including inscriptions, manuscripts, paintings, and other artifacts. In addition to examining the items themselves, we will use archeological reports.

In this seminar, our interests are not exclusively in political or socio-economic history, but are of a broader nature. We seek to understand the culture of medieval China, paying attention to Buddhism and Taoism along with artistic and scientific developments.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN EARLY MODERN CHINA

(coordinated by Professor UMEHARA, K., April 1991~March 1996)

With the founding of the Song Dynasty in the latter half of the tenth century, and the ensuing establishment of a new national structure, outstanding changes in the legal system occurred. Although the Tang law code was still observed in essence, the promulgation of new regulations concerning both central and local government, as well as of new edicts, resulted in a new system different from its predecessors. In this session we will read the basic text concerning Song law, the *Qingyuan tiaofa shilei* and the recently discovered Ming edition of the *Qingmingji* while considering various problems concerning the legal system in China during the Song and later periods.

RESEARCH INTO THE DAOISM OF THE SIX DYNASTIES II

(coordinated by Professor YOSHIKAWA, T., April 1991~March 1996)

The *Zhengao* by Tao Hongjing of the Liang dynasty is a compilation dealing with the various divinities of Daoism. In our research seminar we propose to undertake a complete translation and annotation of the *Zhengao*, thereby illuminating the situation of Daoism in the Six Dynasties period.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE FOR COMPILATION OF *THE ANNUAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ORIENTAL STUDIES*

(coordinated by Associate Professor KATSUMURA, T.)

The committee, which is composed of both scholars and librarians for the annual publication of the bibliography of oriental studies, meets regularly at the Documentation Center for Oriental Studies. More than thirty volumes have already appeared under the editorship of the committee. All the oriental studies written in Japanese, Chinese and Korean are catalogued by the committee members. To prevent

omission of any important literature, the principle has been adopted that all the books and articles written in foreign languages other than Chinese and Korean should be catalogued if they are reviewed or referred to in any journals.

VIOLENCE IN RELIGIOUS CONTEXTS

(coordinated by Associate Professor TANAKA, M., April 1990~March 1993)

This three year project aims to analyse various aspects of violence, symbolic or actual, especially in relation to religious beliefs and rituals. Although violence is an important theme in social science and the humanities, there seem to have been few systematic attempts to analyse and understand it. Here we deal in terms of violence mainly with the following two aspects : first, theoretical arguments on the function and meaning of violence in the formation of human society ; secondly, cross-cultural studies on the ideas of violence, and its forms and meanings in religious contexts.

KNOWLEDGE AS SOCIAL ORDER II : STUDIES ON THE FORMATION OF ELITE CLASSES IN 19TH CENTURY EUROPE

(coordinated by Professor SAKAGAMI, T., April 1990~March 1994)

Around 1800, European countries underwent profound changes, not only politically and economically but also in cultural and social terms. New kinds of knowledge, especially scientific knowledge, had great influence upon reconstructing social orders. This transformation of society also produced new elite classes : technocrats, university radicals, engineers, and every kind of expert in the sciences, who participated in the reconstruction of the social order with their scientific knowledge. This research project aims to clarify the relationship between knowledge and the social order by investigating the formation of the new elite classes in 19th century Europe. Special emphasis will be laid on the reconstruction of national higher education, which played a central part in the formation of the elites.

SIGN, SENSE, AND LITERATURE — IN SEARCH OF NEW HORIZONS FOR LITERARY THEORY

(coordinated by Associate Professor OURA, Y., April 1991~March 1994)

What is literature ? This question, which has been posed time and again since Aristotle, will be at the center of our concern. We are particularly conscious of modern developments in the theoretical approaches to literature, including recent semiotical and structural methodologies. To apprehend literature where it interfaces with other disciplines (linguistics, sociology, psychology, etc.) will be our object.

COMMUNICATION IN NATURAL SETTINGS

(coordinated by Professor TANI, Y., April 1991~March 1994)

Studies in communication, especially in verbal communication, have been based on the ideas that human talk is linearly constructed as written text is, that each turn in a series of talks is attributed to a single speaker, and that the time structure of verbal communication is linear and even. The main objective of our joint study is to collect and analyse types of communication phenomena which could not be fully understood from the view of verbal communication referred to above, and further, to make a theory of communication and/or social interaction in general which would not be based upon the language-centered idea. Our research group consists of ethnographers, anthropologists, sociologists, ethologists, and primatologists. In the first year, we critically reviewed works on communication by E. Goffman, G. Bateson and others. In the second year, we will analyse video-documents of conversational interaction in everyday life.

ANATOMY OF HUMANITIES

(coordinated by Professor YAMADA, K., April 1991~March 1994)

Studies in Humanities seem to have reached a turning point in recent years, due, on the one hand, to the increasing tendency towards specialization and segmentation in each field, and, on the other, to serious doubts about "grand theories." With this situation in view, our project aims to construct a new intellectual paradigm, and seeks a new methodology for the study of Humanities. In our seminar, we will take up certain classical works in the fields of Humanities and reexamine their various aspects in the hope that this may open the way to intellectual innovation.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN CLASSICAL INDIA

(coordinated by Professore IKARI, Y., April 1991~March 1995)

"*Dharma*" (righteousness) is one of the most important key concepts for understanding the civilization of India. The word "*dharma*" is usually translated as "law," but it does not exhaust the topic. Far beyond the scope of its merely legal aspects, it has exerted great influence on the idiom of norm-expression in the broad spheres of social and cultural tradition through the ages of both classical and modern India. The *Dharmasūtras* and the *Dharmaśāstras* belong to the genre of literature which treat various topics of "*dharma*." In our seminar, the focus has been set on the formation period of the classical Indian *dharma* literature and our standpoint is to see the *dharma*-literature rather as the mirror of Hindu cultural traditions, than as legal literature in its limited aspect. We have taken up the *Yājñavalkya-smṛti*, one of the oldest *Dharmaśāstras*, and have been examining the contents and structure of this text through the joint cooperation of the scholars who are experts of various fields of Indology. Through the analysis of the *dharma* literature, we try to shed the light on aspects of the formation period of the Hindu civilization which have not been fully investigated.

STATUS AND PROFESSION IN COMPARATIVE HISTORY

(coordinated by Professor MAEKAWA, K., April 1992~March 1995)

This is a socio-historical study of occupations and professions in preindustrial and proto-industrial societies in Western Europe, the Near East, China and Japan. Main topics of research are as follows: differentiated social ranks represented by individual occupations in ancient and medieval societies, developmental processes of professionalism in early modern societies, development of social institutions for professional discipline, and gradual changes in religious and secular ideologies towards occupations and professions.

A STUDY ON VARIOUS SYSTEMS OF JUSTICE

(coordinated by Professor YAMASHITA, M., April 1992~March 1995)

Our seminar aims to study the following three topics on justice, by using newly developed deontic logic: 1) ideological systems of justice, 2) legal systems of justice, and 3) survival tests of legal systems of justice.

We will devote our energies to the second topic. We will examine what kinds of justice the laws in force express. If some kinds of justice are found to have lapsed from those laws, we will discuss what laws are to be newly added.